



# COMMUTER LINES

Volume 14, Number 2

3rd Quarter 2007

## DOTD promotes driver safety with PSA campaign

**D**OTD launched a highway-safety public service announcement (PSA) campaign in April titled “Wreck Less, Louisiana.” The goal of the “Wreck Less, Louisiana” PSA campaign is to promote driver safety and awareness on Louisiana’s roadways to prevent the nearly 1,000 motor-vehicle fatalities that occur each year.

The “Wreck Less, Louisiana” Campaign, which ran through September, tackled six highway safety issues that are major contributors to crashes. DOTD officials believe the PSAs will reduce crashes by influencing driver behavior. Each month of the campaign features a new highway safety issue with separate PSAs for print, radio and television.

Work-zone safety was the first highway safety issue addressed by the campaign. These PSAs, which ran throughout April, urged drivers to be cautious and obey posted speed limits in construction zones. Since 1992, 147 people have died from motor-vehicle crashes in Louisiana’s work zones.

In May, DOTD featured PSAs designed to reduce

### MOVE IT! MOVE IT! MOVE IT!

YEAH, YOU HEARD RIGHT. AND IN CASE YOU DIDN'T KNOW, IT'S THE LAW. IT'S CALLED THE "MOVE IT" LAW. CLEVER, HUH? IT MEANS THAT IF YOU ARE IN A WRECK AND NO ONE IS SERIOUSLY INJURED AND YOUR CAR IS DRIVABLE, YOU GOTTA MOVE YOUR VEHICLE TO THE NEAREST SAFE SHOULDER. DOESN'T MATTER WHO'S AT FAULT - MOVE IT. YOUR INSURANCE COMPANY AGREES. MOVE IT! MOVE IT! MOVE IT! REASONS FOR THE MOVE IT LAW? HMMM. LET'S SEE, HOW MANY TIMES HAVE YOU BEEN SITTING IN TRAFFIC BEHIND A WRECK BECAUSE EVERYONE INVOLVED IS WAITING FOR THE POLICE? MAKES YOU CRAZY. TRAFFIC BACKS UP. EVERYONE IS ON EDGE. THEN...AS SOON AS IT CLEARS EVERYONE IS SPEEDING TO MAKE UP FOR LOST TIME AND BAM! ANOTHER WRECK. IT'S A VICIOUS CYCLE. UNTIL NOW. NOW YOU KNOW YOU CAN MOVE IT. IT'S THE LAW. NOW GO ON, GET OUTTA HERE.



[www.dotd.la.gov](http://www.dotd.la.gov)

*The public service announcement pictured above ran in newspapers statewide during June.*

pedestrian crashes on Louisiana roads. The pedestrian safety PSAs address dangerous pedestrian behavior such as walking on the roadside while under the influence, jaywalking, crossing interstate highways and “playing in the street.”

June’s PSAs focused on the “Move It” law (R.S. 32:141.D), which directs drivers to move their wrecked vehicles out of travel lanes if no serious injuries have resulted from the crash.

During July, DOTD ran PSAs that highlighted the dangers of speeding. The “speeding” PSAs ran concurrent with stepped-up speed-limit enforcement efforts statewide.

August’s PSAs focused on the dangers of tailgating. Drivers who follow too closely to other

vehicles caused 20,000 crashes last year statewide. The new PSAs, which ran throughout August, referred to drivers who tailgate other vehicles as “impatient, self-important and dangerous.”

**See PSA, page 6**

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# Meet the Staff

## Human Resources Management



### Susan Pellegrin

*Human Resources Director*

Susan Pellegrin, who serves as DOTD's human resources director, began her employment on a student appointment while attending Louisiana State University.

Upon attainment of her Bachelor of Science degree in 1982, she accepted a professional level human resources position and has progressed through the job series, working in nearly every programmatic area of human resources. As human resources director, Susan supervises a staff of 24 employees. In her free time, she enjoys working in her garden.

### Michael Tucker

*Assistant Human Resources Director*

Michael, who joined DOTD in November 2007, is responsible for developing and interpreting DOTD policies and civil service rules and regulations; drug and alcohol testing policies, procedures and contracts; and ethics issues. He also manages recruiting, compensation and the performance planning and review program. He supervises five employees. In his free time, Michael enjoys outdoor cooking.



### Kay McRae

*Employee Administration Manager*

Kay joined DOTD's human resources section 30 years ago as a typist clerk. As DOTD's employee administration manager, she oversees

the department's payroll, insurance, retirement and human resources operations. She supervises 11 employees. Kay and her husband are avid LSU fans and enjoy traveling and spending weekends at their cabin on Toledo Bend Lake.

## ON THE ROAD WITH BRADBERRY ABBREVIATED CALENDAR

### APRIL

- 4 La. 1 Groundbreaking Ceremony
- 18 Coastal Funding and Hurricane Meeting
- 25-26 Focus Georgia Conference in Atlanta
- 26 CPRA Steering Committee

### MAY

- 3 Speech at the ABLE Opening Session
- 4-7 AASHTO Spring Meeting in Phoenix
- 8 I-49 South Coalition Meeting, DOTD employee recognition luncheon
- 9-10 Statewide hurricane exercise
- 19 ULL Graduation Speech
- 21 DOTD hurricane drill

### JUNE

- 4 Congressional Quarterly Summit on Energy Challenges in Your Community
- 7 LGRTA monthly breakfast meeting

### JULY

- 17 "Focus on Louisiana" at Cox Communications
- 24-27 Washington D.C.
- 27 LACPR Steering Committee Meeting
- 30 CPRA task force

### AUGUST

- 5-8 SASHTO Annual Meeting: Huntsville, Ala.
- 25 Speech at Louisiana AGC Critical Issues Forum in New Orleans
- 26 Hope and Recovery Summit

### SEPTEMBER

- 5 I-12 Task Force Study Recommendations Briefing
- 10 CMT Monthly meeting
- 25 QCIP update meeting at LTRC
- 27 Jambalaya for United Way

SECRETARY Johnny B. Bradberry

DEPUTY SECRETARY Cedric Grant

COMMUTER LINES STAFF Mark Lambert

Dustin Annison

Sherry Dupre

Amber Hebert

Brendan Rush





*Spotlight on*  
**CUSTOMER  
SERVICE**  
*"We go the extra mile"*



**A-B-C-D Award Winner  
Valarie Noel, District 03**

In December 2006, Valarie Noel was working at an off-system bridge project. Ronnie Taylor of Shiloh Construction, who was also onsite cutting limbs from a large tree, was left alone while a co-worker went to buy gas for the chain saw. Valarie was about to leave the site when he saw a tree limb fall and strike Ronnie on the head, knocking him unconscious and face-down into the channel below. Valarie jumped into the chest-deep water and opened Ronnie's mouth to help him breathe. Valarie could not carry Ronnie out of the steep channel alone, so he stayed there until Ronnie's co-worker returned and called 9-1-1. The rescue team pulled both men out and provided Ronnie with medical attention. Because of Valarie's quick thinking and heroic efforts, he was able to avert a tragic situation.

## Employees celebrate Public Service Recognition Week

Gov. Kathleen Blanco declared May 7-11 Public Service Recognition Week in Louisiana. To thank everyone for their dedication to public service, employees at headquarters hosted a Jambalaya Luncheon and a "Show and Shine" car show. Employees were also served free root beer floats during the week.



*The materials lab team shows their team spirit at the Employee Recognition Day Jambalaya Luncheon, held at Headquarters May 8. Pictured, from left, are Chris Charles, Dawn Ball, Norris Moore, Tasha Rowe and Luanna Cambas.*



*(Above) Leslie Roberson, left, and Peggy Bueche helped to serve root beer floats to employees at DOTD Headquarters. (Right) Tracey Johnson and Liz Davoli of the environmental section show their team spirit at the Jambalaya Luncheon.*



*(Above) Lynette Gray-Chambers, right, and Paula Berwick, tally votes submitted for the "Show and Shine," hosted at headquarters during the Jambalaya Luncheon.*

# DOTD headquarters hosts Job Shadowing Day

Employees of DOTD headquarters hosted the 2007 Job Shadowing Day for students of Scotlandville Magnet High School April 17.

During this event, seven students from Scotlandville Magnet were paired with DOTD engineers and engineer technicians. The day began with a tour of DOTD's information technology center, which was followed by "shadowing," when each student accompanied a mentor to his or her workstation. At the end of the day, the students reconvened to eat lunch and share their experiences with one another.

The student/mentor relationships do not end with Job Shadowing Day. Some students, mostly those interested in engineering, who are members of the Scotlandville Mentoring Program have had periodic meetings with their mentors.

Secretary Johnny B. Bradberry said, "I'm gratified that our employees are involved in the community. I'd like to think that our efforts, individually and collectively, will result in some successful business and engineering careers down the road."

Also during the 2007 Job Shadowing Day,



*DOTD recruiting program manager Janice Drake, center, welcomes Scotlandville Magnet High students to DOTD's Job Shadowing Day. From left, students are Donnie Jackson, interested in chemical engineering; Charlaya Washington, interested in computer and electric engineering; Steven Ray, interested in mechanical engineering; Whitney Pollard, interested in mechanical engineering; André Smith, interested in computer engineering; Justin St. Romain, interested in mechanical engineering; and Tyrell Fairley, interested in mechanical engineering.*

DOTD presented a check for more than \$910 to the school's engineering program.

The money represents 10 percent of the proceeds from two "Books Are Fun" book sales held at headquarters in 2006 – a one-day sale during the summer and a two-day sale held before Christmas.

"DOTD's Job Shadowing Day and monetary donation will greatly help our school to nurture future engineers," Scotlandville Principal Howard Davis said. "Public schools can always use a helping hand, and Scotlandville Magnet is no exception in that regard."

Scotlandville Magnet's engineering group, taught by mechanical engineer Kanika Vessel, will use the money for various projects and field trips, such as Engineering Day at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette, according to the school's Magnet Lead Teacher Beatrice Arvie.



*DOTD fundraiser: DOTD Deputy Secretary Cedric Grant, right, presents a check for more than \$910 to Scotlandville Magnet High School's Magnet Lead Teacher Beatrice Arvie. The money was raised through a "Books Are Fun" fundraiser held by DOTD employees.*

InCourage is a free and confidential counseling program to help individuals in the Baton Rouge area cope with the lingering impacts of hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

People enrolled in the program, which is sponsored by the Baton Rouge Area Foundation, will receive up to 10 counseling sessions at no cost to them.

**For more information, call 1-800-437-0303 by Jan. 31**

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# DOTD breaks ground on elevated portion of La. 1

Gov. Kathleen Babineaux Blanco led a group of state, federal and local officials April 4 to officially break ground on a new elevated roadway for La. 1 between Leeville and Port Fourchon.

The new highway will be part of a multi-phase plan to rebuild La. 1, the only evacuation route for lower Lafourche Parish and Grand Isle, the state's only inhabited barrier island. Construction of the elevated roadway will cost \$137 million, and James Construction of Baton Rouge is the contractor.

During the ceremony, DOTD Secretary Johnny B. Bradberry told several hundred guests that La. 1 is an important route for the economic and national security interests of Louisiana and the nation. About 18 percent of the nation's oil and natural gas



*Gov. Kathleen Babineaux Blanco (fifth from left), DOTD Secretary Johnny B. Bradberry (sixth from left) are joined by state, federal and local officials as they break ground on the elevated roadway segment of La. 1 between Leeville and Port Fourchon.*

supply passes through Port Fourchon, which can only be accessed by La. 1.

"Rebuilding this road protects our national security interests, it benefits our economy, it protects our environment and it keeps us safe," Bradberry said.

The 6-mile highway will have two 12-foot lanes, two 8-foot shoulders and an elevation of 22.5 feet. Construction is expected to

be completed by fall of 2011.

DOTD also is ensuring that the new road be built in an environmentally sensitive manner by employing a "top-down" construction method. This type of construction will minimize the impact on the sensitive marsh because no heavy equipment is placed on the ground or moved across the marsh, as is the case with traditional construction.

## U.S. DOT secretary visits I-10 widening in Metairie

Mary E. Peters, secretary of the U.S. Department of Transportation, visited the construction site of the I-10 widening project Sept. 28 in Metairie.

As the nation's top transportation official, Secretary Peters said it is important for her to see for herself the progress being made in New Orleans to restore and rebuild the area's highways and bridges. In addition, she wanted to better understand how the recent population shifts are changing the area's transportation patterns and needs.

"In many ways, the future of

New Orleans is tied directly to making the right kind of improvements to its transportation system," Peters said.

Peters said that the improvement being made to I-10, the most heavily traveled roadway in the State of Louisiana, and the ongoing I-10 Twin Spans bridge project are examples of how the area is rebuilding to reduce congestion and planning ahead to handle future traffic growth.

Earlier in the day, Peters met with the St. Tammany Parish Chamber of Commerce, where she talked about steps the U.S. DOT is taking to reduce traffic



*DOTD Deputy Secretary Cedric Grant, center, shows U.S. DOT Secretary Mary Peters, right, the plans for the I-10 construction project in Metairie.*

congestion. The U.S. DOT has obligated \$2.32 billion of the \$2.35 billion authorized for transportation recovery and rebuilding projects in Louisiana and Mississippi.

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## DOTD employee celebrates half century of service

**W**hile many people devote a remarkable number of years to state service, one DOTD employee in District 02 is raising the bar. Woodward Hebert, Gang 262, has worked for the department more than 51 years...and counting!

Hebert joined the department in 1956, when it was known as the Louisiana Department of Highways.

"At that time, the employment rate in the country was very low," he said. "Before I was hired by the highway department, I was working odd jobs, and living off three days' work each week. I was looking for security in a job."

Throughout the years, he's served the state with a Zen-like attitude.

"There are some good jobs and some bad jobs," he said, "but somebody's got to do it."

Hebert worked for many years in the department's asphalt and concrete plants.

"Then when the contractors started doing most of the testing, I fell into a runner's job – going from plant to plant picking up materials and dropping them off. I liked that position, and that's what I'm still doing."

Hebert said he's made it through 51 years by taking it one day at a time. "That's the only way I know. Tomorrow never comes," he said.

That philosophy was likely influenced by the four and a half years Hebert spent in the Navy during World War II.



*Michael Stack (left), Gordon Nelson (second from right) and Larry Langenstein (right) present Woody Hebert with a governor's citation and a service award certificate.*

"I joined when I was barely 17," he said. "First, I served land duty and sea duty as part of a plane detection unit. Then, they put me on the aircraft carrier *Saratoga* that went to Japan. One day off the coast of Iwo Jima, we watched a smaller carrier blow up right in front of us. Then, they hit our ship."

The *Saratoga* was struck by a number of kamikazes and torpedoes, but the carrier didn't sink.

"We lost about 800 men that day," Hebert said.

"One of the most memorable events of my life was the burial at sea, when they threw my shipmates into the deep. We stood at attention all day long while they buried the dead."

"I go to church more after that," he said. "I told the Lord if he saved me I'd go to church every Sunday!"

Hebert has two grown sons and one grandchild. When asked if he has plans to retire, Hebert laughed and said, "Every time they ask when I am going to retire, I say, '8 o'clock tonight.' You never know about tomorrow."

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**“EVERY TIME THEY ASK ME  
WHEN I AM GOING TO RETIRE, I  
SAY, 8 O’CLOCK TONIGHT.”**  
— **WOODWARD HEBERT**

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### PSA (continued from page 1)

The message for drivers is to "back off, slow down and live a little."

September's topic was driver distraction. Distracted driving contributed to 443,361 crashes in Louisiana between 2001 and 2005. According to crash reports, more than 1,200 people died as a result

of these crashes. The distracted driving PSAs reach out to drivers who talk on cell phones and text message while driving, considering them an "accident waiting to happen."

The "Wreck Less, Louisiana" Campaign's PSA concepts for television, radio and print were creat-

ed by the Graham Group, a full-service advertisement agency in Louisiana, with oversight by DOTD.

The total cost of the "Wreck Less, Louisiana" campaign, which is paid for with Federal Highway Administration safety funds, was \$950,000.

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# Headquarters raises \$27,082 for United Way



*DOTD Headquarters recently raised \$27,082.15 for the Capital Area United Way (CAUW). The fundraising events began with a kickoff event at the Baton Rouge River Center hosted by CAUW, for which Caroline Pentek, Sabrina Ames and Sarah Reed of the Customer Service Center prepared giveaway bags (top left).*

*DOTD Headquarters hosted a bake sale fundraiser (shown in center picture), where Patrice Little, Kathy Ward, Ed Wedge, Peggy Bueche and Joyce Rodriguez of Contract Services helped to sell baked goods.*

*During another fundraiser, Richard Savoie of the Chief Engineering Office and Kirt Clement of Management and Finance prepared a delicious jambalaya lunch (shown in top right picture). Kenny Graham and Charles Templeton of the Building Maintenance section and Laura Leblanc of Contract Services helped to serve the lunch (shown in the bottom left picture).*

*During the jambalaya luncheon, employees at headquarters participated in a basketball tournament, during which Johnny B. Bradberry, DOTD secretary, made 18 consecutive free throws (shown in the bottom right picture). Secretary Bradberry wore the hat that DOTD workers selected for him to wear during hat day.*

*Other United Way fundraisers held at headquarters include "Hat Day for United Way," a pumpkin carving contest and a silent auction.*

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## NEWS BRIEFS

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Gov. Kathleen Babineaux Blanco declared April 8-14, 2007, as Work Zone Awareness Week in Louisiana. As a memorial to those killed in work zones throughout the nation, DOTD placed traffic cones on its headquarters lawn during the Work Zone Awareness Week.



The winner of a drawing for one free item from the Books Are Fun fair was Tiffany Coffman. The book fair, which was held June 20 at DOTD headquarters, raised \$246 for Scotlandville Magnet High School, DOTD's partner school.



Marlene Welch, left, and Nezida Jarreau of the legal section display the quilts they crafted by hand. They will donate the quilts to St. Jude Children's Hospital.



Two students who attended the National Summer Transportation Institute demonstrate their project, which won one of the program's engineering competitions. DOTD funds a portion of the annual program, which was held in June at Southern University. Each year, up to 30 students from East Baton Rouge and five surrounding parishes attend the program to learn the basics of engineering principles.



DOTD employed 29 junior- and senior-level engineering students to work full-time this summer in headquarters and district offices as a part of its Engineering Summer Student Program. This program is designed to provide college students with "real world" experiences in a civil engineering environment. During their internship, Sherri LeBas (pictured right) presented an information session to the students. The participants were also honored at a special farewell luncheon Aug. 15 hosted by the secretary's office.





## DOTD opens Juban Road/I-12 interchange in Livingston Parish

**D**OTD celebrated the opening of the Juban Road Interchange at Interstate 12 April 3 with a ribbon-cutting ceremony, hosted by Secretary Johnny B. Bradberry. Other speakers included U.S. Congressman Richard Baker; State Senator Heulette "Clo" Fontenot; State Rep. Dale M. Erdey; Livingston Parish President Michael "Mike" Grimmer; and Denham Springs Mayor James "Jimmy" Durbin.

"The Juban Road project experienced some setbacks caused by Hurricane Katrina," said Bradberry. "But working together with our contractor we were able to overcome those setbacks and provide the Denham Springs area with a new interchange."

The Juban Road Interchange at I-12 was delayed because some of the concrete girders had been contaminated with salt water. The girders were housed in a yard in Mississippi that flooded during Hurricane

Katrina's storm surge. Salt water soaked into the girders and damaged the metal strands. If left untreated, oxidation over a 30- to 40-year period could cause corrosion. This corrosion, in turn, could cause cracking and result in pieces of concrete crumbling and falling below the overpass while vehicles passed.

In cooperation with Denton-James, the contractor on the project, DOTD devised an innovative remediation process that cleaned the metal strands and sealed the girders to remove the chance for oxidation. This remediation continued after the project opened.

The \$16.4-million project began in February 2005. It includes a new five-lane overpass with a center turning lane and on-and off-ramps to I-12 eastbound and westbound. The overpass and interchange will help with congestion at Range Road and give the expanding areas of Denham Springs and Livingston Parish additional access to and from I-12.

## Technology Transfer

The following employees became certified inspectors between March 1, 2007, and August 31, 2007:

### PORTLAND CEMENT CONCRETE PAVING INSPECTION

Kyle Tircuit	District 61
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### EMBANKMENT AND BASE COURSE INSPECTION

Nocoma Clark	District 08
Derek Duvic	District 62
Jason Gagnard	District 08
Charles E. Hewitt	District 08
Michael Lott	District 62
Kevin R. Nicholson	District 08
Joshua B. Payne	District 62
Christopher J. Prescia	District 62

### STRUCTURAL CONCRETE INSPECTION

Terry W. Combs	District 04
Paula M. Garrett	District 02
Shirley R. Guidry	District 61
Dennis D. Ingles	District 04
James R. McCann	District 62
Steve Verbois	District 61

### ASPHALTIC CONCRETE PAVING INSPECTION

Ronald E. Branham	District 04
Jessie T. Carraway	District 61
Dewayne G. Crayton	District 62
Anthony J. Gaudet	District 03
Elmo G. Glatt	District 08
James T. Smallwood	District 04
Nicholas R. Taylor	District 62

### PORTLAND CEMENT CONCRETE PAVING INSPECTION

Bryan A. Fontenot	District 61
Thomas E. Layrisson	District 62
Thomas R. Newsom	District 61
Christopher Oberlander	Dist. 04

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# PERSONNEL UPDATES

(MARCH 2007-AUGUST 2007)

## NEW HIRES

### DISTRICT 02 – NEW ORLEANS

Paul Bickham, Kevin Bode, Amanda Bradley, Lawrence Carter, Leander Craft, Latoya Druhet, Corey Gaudet, Theron King, Henry Langlois, Garry LeBlanc, Laron Louis, Jarrett Matherne, Irwin Miller, Richard Montegut, Josue Monzon, Frederick Quinn, Brittany Rojas, Joshua Scott, Ronald Secco, Harriet Shelton, Francis Simon, Joshua Williams

### DISTRICT 03 – LAFAYETTE

Stephen Ardoin, Troy Ardoin, Terrance Ballet, Rocky Batiste, Shannon Breaux, Wardell Delasbour, Casey Domingue, Jimmy Drouet, Ronald Fuselier, Glenn Guidry, Zachary Guidry, Prentice Guilbeaux, Larry Jernigan, Reginald King, Leonard LeBlanc, Kenneth Lissard, Joseph Matthews, Colby Menard, Candice Robinson, Darrion Silas, Markus Smith, Jerome Tauzin, Byron Vincent

### DISTRICT 04 – BOSSIER CITY

Casey Brown, Warren Brown, Evan Hardy, Kathy Pickard, Mona Smith, Allen Whitaker

### DISTRICT 05 – MONROE

David Martin Blocker, Joe Booker, Gary Brewer, Lisa Brinson, Patrick Brown, Ronald Brown, Illya Green, Timothy Harrell, Stanley Hicks, James Jackson, Roderick Joe, Daniel Johnson, Kaleb Keene, Eric Marine, Rodney McFarland, Ryan McMillan, Michael Nugent, Omar Rucker, Octayvus Scott, William Steed, Richard Yelverton

### DISTRICT 07 – LAKE CHARLES

Clifton Courville, Paul Gautreaux, Charlene Guillot, Ami Picou, Mark Quebodeaux, Orais Schlesingeri, Kimberly Terry, Jake Tullos

### DISTRICT 08 – ALEXANDRIA

Philip Anderson, Michael Burroughs, Austin Cooley, William Gaspard, Christopher Goatley, Joseph McClure, Michael Parker, Mannie Skursky,

### DISTRICT 58 – CHASE

Gregory Adcock, Bobby Blossom, Stephen Cooper, Robert Daniels, Charlie Franklin, Rodney Monson, Benjamin Scroggs, Joseph Stroud, Alex Wesley, Eddie Westbrooks

### DISTRICT 61 – BATON ROUGE

Christopher Alonso, James Barrow, Alonzo Cannon, David Cassie, Darryl Dunham, Jason Hebert, Bret Jarreau, Cedric Lacour, Chadley Matthews, Darius Pickett, Andrew Pownall, Timothy Randazzo, Jacob Rester, David Stovall, Eric Vice, M Waller, Darius Wells, Thomas Wright

### DISTRICT 62 – HAMMOND

Christian Boutte, Thiron Carr, Robert Collins, Charles DePhillips, Melanie Giardina, Jared Hemstad, Travis Herring, Charles Holden, Joshua Jarrell, Joshua Mason, Tyrone McKinley, Charles McKnight, Melvin Oller, Feltus Peck, Travis Ricks, Joshua Schilling, Russell Smith, Kadanzae Tate, Brian Terrebonne, Susan Thomas, Gregory Tregre, Bruce Wall, Michael Wascom, Wayne Watson

### HEADQUARTERS & OTHER

Simon Alfonzo, Darrell Anderson, Chanda Baker, Boyd Barbier, Todd Bastion, Alberetta Batiste, Joan Battle, Haylye Brown, Tiffinee Brown, Pamela Burleigh, Gregory Cali, Kenneth Chandler, Keira Coleman, Vincent Collins, Heather Corsentino, Marcia Cotton, Tarsha Crockett, Kasey Daigle, Frances Darnell, Matthew Doran, Eric

Douglas, John Dunlap, Steven Dunn, James Dutsch, Marcia Easley, Michelle Edwards, Jeremy Fall, Dana Feng, Keith Fournier, Nicole Franklin, Kendrick Frazier, Sharon Gage, Joseph Gibson, Timmothy Giddings, Gay Giroir, Cynthia Green, Brian Griffith, Chris Guidry, Kristen Guidry, Carolyn Guillotte, Tingzong Guo, Jacob Haffner, William Hall, Khalil Hanifa, Sharfrita Harrison, Joshua Harrouch, Kendra Hazure, Jennifer Hemphill, Joseph Herpin, Robert Hoover, Josephine Jackson, Shannon James, Jenay Johnson, Kimberly Jones, Heather Keith, Simone Kimble, Darnell Kimmie, Brandilyn LeBlanc, Laura LeBlanc, Donna Leonard, Cynthia Lipscomb, Shawn Luke, Timothy Magee, Anthony Markiewicz, Tanya Martello, Corey Mayeaux, David Mayeaux, James Melton, Krystal Miller, Christian Naquin, David Nash, Donnetta Nelson, Trung Quan Nguyen, Timothy Nickel, Cade Norman, Wynell Ortego, James Parsons, Christopher Pesson, David Robins, Yolanda Robinson, Matthew Romaine, Aquila Savage, Danishe Singleton, Kenyatta Smith, Tuan Tran, Mark Wallace, Xuyong Wang, Joshua Ward, Janet Williams, Joyce Williams, Naisha Wilson, Shaundrell Wilson, Hong Zhang

## PROMOTIONS

### DISTRICT 02 – NEW ORLEANS

Ricky Bolden, Scott Boyle, Charlie Clerk, Vernon Comardelle, James Courtney, Terry Edwards, Sabrina Fuller, Joe Gayden, Donald Jones, Ellis Kimball, Paul Lambert, Lyle LeBlanc, Chris Morvant, Linda Paternostro, Kristina Payne, Walter Perdue, Michael Richoux, Frank Standige, Robert Wegener, Frederick Wetekamm

*See PERSONNEL, page 11*

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## PERSONNEL (continued from page 10)

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### **DISTRICT 03 – LAFAYETTE**

Hiro Alexandrian, Teddy Babin, Larry Batiste, Margaret Breaux, Frank Citrano, Kenneth Dugas, Jeffrey Faust, Sandra Hebert, Gerald Joseph, Ronnie King, Murphy Ledoux, Michael Moss, Sherman Murphy

### **DISTRICT 04 – BOSSIER CITY**

Harvey Christian, Joel Coker, Jay Collins, Vernie Goza, Carolyn Green, Richard Haynes, Randy Jones, Robert Kent, Douglas Lee, Don Maddox, Richard Mathews, Shawn Ray, Kyle Rogers, Patricia Sanchez, Cathy Shaffer, Joel Stevens, Kenneth Watson, Rusty Welch

### **DISTRICT 05 – MONROE**

Charles Atlas, Eric Broadway, Michael Cowart, John Eason, Ronald Gallien, Vincent Giovingo, Pamela Higginbotham, Thomas Hill, Terry Hite, David Hodnett, Robert Holyfield, Henry Jackson Jr., William Jones, Donald McLeod, Darren Moore, Harry Murray, Dalton Newell, Gerald Nichols, Otis Peterson, Billy Plummer, Shon Savage, Jeffrey Shapiro, Buel Taylor, David Thomas, Jerry Travis

### **DISTRICT 07 – LAKE CHARLES**

Casey Bolton, Harry Caldwell, Dale Conner, Ronald Dupont, Michelle Jackson, Robert Jiles, Jimmy Jones, Joshua LeFranc, Jennifer Lopez, Kevin Seilhan, Edward Smith Jr.

### **DISTRICT 08 – ALEXANDRIA**

Diane Ardoin, John Bourgoyne, Cephas Bowie, Rusty Bryant, William Dean, Rhett Desselle, Paige Glenn, Derrell Gorham, Robert Mays, Randy Michiels, Brian Rosenthal, Kenneth Strickland, Nicholas Verret, Michael White

### **DISTRICT 58 – CHASE**

David Eley, Thomas Hale, Jerry Linder, Kenneth Mason, Kenneth Morris, Justin Reeves, Chris Roussell, Robert Smith, Shannon Stephens

### **DISTRICT 61 – BATON ROUGE**

Paul Alleman, Michael Cannon, Troy Douglas, Kenneth Green, Terri Hammack, Gerald Jones, Kenzie Littles, Ronnie Robinson, John Rousseau, Joey Tureau, Chad Vosburg, Jason Zito

### **DISTRICT 62 – HAMMOND**

Bryan Anthony, Michael Bentivegna, Carl Cieutat, David Ciolino, James Cutrer, Burnell Dudley, Christopher Forbes, Lewis Giacone, Jack Granger, Jacob Guitreau, Joseph Lamonte, Glynn Maples, Ernest Matherne, Roland Maurin, Jesse McClendon, William Murray, Gerald Pecoraro, Dorman Rick, Allison Schilling, Charles Scimeca, Julius Severio, James Tidwell, David Tregre, Dwayne Whittington

### **HEADQUARTERS & OTHER**

Douglas Albert, Rickey Alleman, Ira Binning, Joseph Blanchard, Shannon Boudoin, Clifford Bourgeois, Brenda Browning, Victoria Cairns, Sharon Cedotal, Timmy Charles, Frederick Cifreo, Blake Coffey, Lorne Cortez, Jonathan Delacerda, Carl Deville, Chad Digirolamo, Rebekah Esneault, Dwight Fox, John Galtney, Charlotte Garrison, Kevin Gaspard, Anthony Gennaro, Johnson Hale, Mitra Hashemieh, John Holdcraft, Sue Hopper, Willie Jackson, Joyce Johnson, Johnny Kinsey, Tri Lam, Donna Lavigne, Pamela Lecoq, C. Marchand, Dayna Mayeux, Alvin Mix, Steven Moore, Clarence

Mortiz, Jessica Muse, Mary Ory, Pamela Parker, Susan Pellegrin, Toby Picard, Nick Rabalais, Catherine Rando, Leslie Roberson, Charlene Robertson, Barton Rumsey, David Samson, Lloyd Scallan, Joseph Simon, Armond Sullivan, Stephen Tassin, Jeffrey Till, Clarence Troulliet, Sonya Turner, John Veals, Hollis Ward

### **RETIREMENTS**

#### **DISTRICT 02 – NEW ORLEANS**

Wayne Fairley, Marceli Rodriguez, Marie Talbert, Benjamin Walker, Rosie Windmon

#### **DISTRICT 03 – LAFAYETTE**

Chad Champagne

#### **DISTRICT 04 – BOSSIER CITY**

Jerry Kilgore

#### **DISTRICT 05 – MONROE**

Albert Green, John Watley

#### **DISTRICT 07 – LAKE CHARLES**

None

#### **DISTRICT 08 – ALEXANDRIA**

Garland Brossette, Michael Gooden

#### **DISTRICT 58 – CHASE**

Johnny Duchesne, Billy Russell, Freeman Wilson

#### **DISTRICT 61 – BATON ROUGE**

Frank Pearly, John Watson

#### **DISTRICT 62 – HAMMOND**

Leroy Whiten, Frank Williams

### **HEADQUARTERS & OTHER**

Joseph Breaux, Teresa Brian, Nicholas Caffey, Beverly Goings, Mary Hano, Glenn McFall, James Pranter, William Raborn, Clayton Swift, Jonathan Turner, Judy Versaw, Wayne Weick

# QUARTERLY RECOGNITION AWARDS

(QUARTER ENDING DECEMBER 2006)

<b>Headquarters</b>	<b>Manager of the Quarter</b>	Stacy Hebert	<b>Quarter</b>
<b>Employee of the Quarter</b>	No recipient	<b>Manager of the Quarter</b>	No recipient
No recipient	<b>Best Team Effort</b>	Kenneth Constance	<b>Manager of the Quarter</b>
<b>Manager of the Quarter</b>	Clayton P. Albert,	<b>Best Team Effort</b>	Joseph Berthelot
David Slayter	Lawrence J. Babineaux,	Edward Jackson, Jesse	<b>Best Team Effort</b>
<b>Best Team Effort</b>	Larry James Batiste,	Bernard, Jessie Boese Jr.,	Hewitt J. Beauvais III,
Bryan Anthony, Eddie	Kevin M. Bernard, Lloyd	Paul Manuel, Freddie	Anna Hanks, Roy Miller,
Barber, Timothy Bates,	Joseph Breaux, Steven J.	Perrodin, Fred Trahan	Michael Ng, Constance
Johnnie Blackwell,	Broussard, Walter J.		Porter, Ronnie Robinson,
Ronnie Faust, Chris	Flugence, Gerald Joseph,	<b>District 08</b>	Natasha Russell
Forbes, Malcom R.	Quentin L. Moore,	<b>Employee of the Quarter</b>	
Jackson, Scott Magee,	Anthony Morgan Jr.,	Shuntel Davis	<b>District 62</b>
Mike Magee	Dwayne A. Pitre, Russell	<b>Manager of the Quarter</b>	<b>Employee of the Quarter</b>
<b>Secretary's Award of Excellence</b>	Joseph Thibodeaux, Roy	No recipient	Christine Gowland
Brian Buckel	J. Williams Jr.	<b>Best Team Effort</b>	<b>Manager of the Quarter</b>
	<b>District 04</b>	Trampus Barton, Sandra	No recipient
<b>District 02</b>	<b>Employee of the Quarter</b>	Burlison, Dale Craig,	<b>Best Team Effort</b>
<b>Employee of the Quarter</b>	No recipient	Sandra Doherty, Elmo	Salvador Bonfiglia, Joe
Aaron Davis	<b>Manager of the Quarter</b>	Glatt Jr., Jimmy Haymon	Lamonica
<b>Manager of the Quarter</b>	No recipient	II, Charles Hewitt Jr.,	<b>Secretary's Award of Excellence</b>
Gregory Patterson	<b>Best Team Effort</b>	Gregory Johnson,	Ryan Hoyt
<b>Best Team Effort</b>	No recipient	Michael Kirklin, Paula	
Edward Mire, Gary		Monk, James Perkins,	<b>CCCD</b>
McSweeney	<b>District 05</b>	Joseph Roberts, Duane	<b>Employee of the Quarter</b>
<b>Secretary's Award of Excellence</b>	<b>Employee of the Quarter</b>	Sharp Jr., Rex Stephens	Twyla Williams
Kenneth Flagg, Jose	Martin Higginbotham	<b>District 58</b>	<b>Manager of the Quarter</b>
Peraza, Michael Stack,	<b>Manager of the Quarter</b>	<b>Employee of the Quarter</b>	Raymond Troulliet
Steven Strength, Ronald	Matthew Jones	Monia Joyner	<b>Best Team Effort</b>
Till, John Wallace III,	<b>Best Team Effort</b>	James Blanton Jr.	John Adamo, Jason
Alan Weber, R.H.	Daniel Boyte, Charles	<b>Best Team Effort</b>	Franklin, Sterling Gaines,
"Buzzy" Wegener Jr.	McKinley, Quantez	Michael Brock, Bradley	Herbert Hotard Jr.,
	Reese, Walter Stapleton,	Edwards, James Flores,	Reginald Hunt, Willie
	James Underwood	E. Doyle Guy Jr., Johnny	Jackson, Kerry
<b>District 03</b>		Trahern, Joe Holloway	McKinney Jr., Paul
<b>Employee of the Quarter</b>	<b>District 07</b>		Mitchell, Marlene
Valarie Dwain Noel	<b>Employee of the Quarter</b>	<b>District 61</b>	Moody, Satnaraine
		<b>Employee of the</b>	Rambaran, Percy Stone

Five thousand, five hundred and fifty copies of this public document were published in one printing at a cost of \$1,500. This document was published by Moran Printing Inc. under authority of the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development. This material was printed in accordance with standards for printing by State Agencies established in R.S. 43:31. Printing of this material was purchased in accordance with the provisions of Title 43 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes.

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# YEARLY RECOGNITION AWARDS

(YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 2006)

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## Headquarters

### Employee of the Year

Terri Monaghan

### Manager of the Year

Rhett Desselle

### Best Team Effort

Artur D'Andrea, Kurt Brauner,  
Ahmad Burnos, Stephanie Cavalier,  
Marcella Cummins, Brian Delatte,  
Joseph Douglas III, Paul Fossier  
Jr., Zhengzheng "Jenny" Fu, Phillip  
Gelpi, Garland Grass, Steward  
Hingle, Darrell Hymel, Carl  
Krumm, Jenan Nakehleh, Charles  
Nickel Jr., Mark Ordogne, Peggy  
Jo Paine, R.J. Scallan II, Ryan  
Reviere, Paul Vaught III,  
Kristopher Wascom, Kian Yap  
**Secretary's Innovation Award,  
"Thinking Out of the Box"**

John Ashley Horne

## District 02

### Employee of the Year

Linda Snow Johnson

### Manager of the Year

Ennis Johnson

### Best Team Effort

Christina Bajewski, Jennifer  
Branton, Terry Cardaro Jr., Michael  
Celestine, Herbert Connors Jr.,  
James Courtney III, Aaron Davis,  
Andrew Dufresne III, Ronald  
Firmin, Justin Guilbeau, Ennis  
Johnson, John Monzon, Aaron  
Pleyel, Sharon Terrebonne, Craig  
Vidrine

## District 03

### Employee of the Year

Valarie Dwain Noel

### Manager of the Year

Earl Patrick Derouselle

### Best Team Effort

Clayton P. Albert, Lawrence J.

Babineaux, Larry James Batiste,  
Kevin M. Bernard, Lloyd Joseph  
Breau, Steven J. Broussard,  
Walter J. Flugence, Gerald Joseph,  
Quentin L. Moore, Anthony  
Morgan Jr., Dwayne A. Pitre,  
Russell Joseph Thibodeaux, Roy J.  
Williams Jr.

## District 04

### Employee of the Year

Kenneth Reliford

### Manager of the Year

Michael Martin

### Best Team Effort

Douglas Lee, Todd Moreau,  
Thomas Myers, Larry Nelson,  
Russell Pruett, Casey Rogers,  
David Wallace

## District 05

### Employee of the Year

Melissa Roan

### Manager of the Year

Danny Gaston

### Best Team Effort

Randy Cox, Michael McMellon,  
Ray Whitlock, Charles Ray  
Whitlock, Royce Eugene  
Blackman, James Todd  
Freeman, Willie Aikens Jr.

## District 07

### Employee of the Year

Dallas L. Thibodeaux

### Manager of the Year

Randall L. Bennett

### Best Team Effort

District 07 employees

## District 08

### Employee of the Year

Bobby Bynog

### Manager of the Year

Gregory Johnson

## Best Team Effort

District 08 employees

## District 58

### Employee of the Year

Rachel Hudson

### Manager of the Year

Glen Smith

### Best Team Effort

Michael Snowden, James C. Poole,  
Lanny A. Poole

## District 61

### Employee of the Year

Joe Bond

### Manager of the Year

Philip Graves

### Best Team Effort

Jeffrey Albarracin, Michael  
Bennett, Elliott Bizette, John  
Bourque, Ernest Brown Jr., John  
Buckley, Daniel Cotten, Michael  
Donmyer, Leon Durbin, David  
Jenks, Michael Mansur, Vernell  
McKenzie Jr., Nathan Millard,  
John Olinde, Tacie Rabalais,  
Rochelle Russell, James  
Sublett III, Michael Vosburg,  
Kathy Wilson

## District 62

### Employee of the Year

No recipient

### Manager of the Year

No recipient

### Best Team Effort

District 62 employees

## CCCD

### Employee of the Year

Jerry L. Strong

### Manager of the Year

Tesalia Renner

### Best Team Effort

No recipient

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## HR HOT TOPICS

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### HR STAFFING CHANGES

After a long and distinguished career at DOTD, Deidre Adams, Human Resource Director, retired in September. We'll truly miss her but wish her lots of well deserved relaxation and enjoyment in her retirement! Congratulations to Susan Pellegrin, who has been selected to replace Deidre as DOTD's Human Resource Director.

### PAY SCHEDULE CHANGES

In addition to the \$1,500 annual across-the-board increase for all state employees, Gov. Blanco approved an approximate 7 percent increase to the minimums of all pay schedules and an approximate 10 percent increase to the maximums of the Administrative, Technician & Skilled Trades, and Technical & Scientific pay schedules. The maximums of the Protective Services pay schedule have been adjusted by 14 percent. The effective date of the new maximums was June 30; the new minimums were effective July 2. Employees who were below the new minimum of their range received an immediate increase in pay as a result of the pay range adjustments.

### HR'S NEW EMPLOYEE ADMINISTRATION (EA) UNIT

As a result of DOTD's conversion to the Statewide Payroll System, HR has formed a new unit which encompasses members of the former HR Operations Unit as well as employees from the Financial Services Section who handle payroll and insurance. This restructuring will enable HR to better meet the needs of DOTD managers and employees.

### RECRUITING ASSISTANCE IS AVAILABLE TO DOTD MANAGERS

HR provides assistance in publicizing job vacancies, especially for difficult-to-fill positions. Janice Drake, HR Recruiting Manager, is available to develop and place job ads in newspapers, trades journals, electronic newsletters, as well as posting positions on electronic job boards. For assistance, contact Janice at (225) 379-1222 or [janicedrake@dotd.la.gov](mailto:janicedrake@dotd.la.gov).

## I-10 project in BR gets \$4.6 million boost

**D**OTD Secretary Johnny B. Bradberry announced Sept. 18 that an Interstate 10 widening project in Baton Rouge will receive a \$4.6 million boost through a new federal program.

The grant is funded by the U.S. Department of Transportation's "Corridors of the Future" program, a new initiative in which states submitted proposals to relieve interstate congestion. I-10 was selected as one of six federal "Corridors of the Future," a designation that gives Louisiana priority funding and a competitive edge in financing projects on I-10. The \$4.6 million will help pay to widen I-10 from I-12 to Siegen Lane from four lanes to six lanes.

"I-10 continues to be a driving force for economic growth and recovery in south Louisiana," Bradberry said. "This money will ensure that we can widen this part of the interstate and relieve some of the congestion that threatens our growth and recovery."

The \$4.6 million will help pay for the \$50-\$60 million project. DOTD will take bids on the project in May 2008.

A future Louisiana route, Interstate 69 in north Louisiana, also was named as a "Corridor of the Future." I-69 is in the planning stages in Louisiana.

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# MAILBAG



Dear Mr. [Ronnie] Poree,

Not very often in this world today do we find honest people. You are one of those rare people. I was at the Save-A-Center to get gas and I placed my wallet on top of the car. After a slight problem, I drove off, and about a mile and a half later I realized I had lost my wallet. We went back to look but I guess we didn't look good enough. After I didn't find it, I began to pray and asked God for peace of mind and to take charge. I was playing golf [the following week], and Judge Ragusa from Plaquemines Parish called me to say someone from the Department of Transportation and Development had found my wallet and was going to mail it to me. It was truly an answered prayer, and a testimony of how God can bless us daily if we just be obedient. Thank you again.

A friend in Christ,

Glenn Bourque

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Dear Brett Pounds,

Thank you so much for the tree removal job last week on the state's right of way. [The concerned citizen who called us] was pleased with your quick response and said that the job your people did was so ... professionally done. I told him to tell people that, because your department does not always get the credit you deserve. Thanks again for your help.

Lisa Blackwell

Legislative Assistant for Rep. Pete Schneider

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Dear Diane Chastain,

Thank you so much. You have been a great deal of help and so patient with me. I have bugged the life out of you and you remained so kind and helpful...even when we had a hard time figuring things out. You never stop helping me.

Thanks,

Lorraine J. Hall

Accounts Receivable Specialist

ABMB Engineers, Inc.

Dear Nick Verrett, DOTD District 08 Manager,

I wrote the District 08 office on July 30, 2007, with some concerns about potholes and a dead/dying tree with large limbs in the Forest Hill/Lecompte area. I received a call from a Mr. Danny Smith on Aug. 1 or 2, in which he called to clarify the location of the problems that I discussed in my letter to the department. As I discussed with Danny I was specifically interested in Hwy 112, which appears to have extensive large truck damage and is utilized by more 18-wheelers than I had ever known. Hwy 497 which runs in front of my home from Forest Hill to Glenmora is also ratted extensively and filled with pot-holes which are dangerous and caused people to swerve into the opposite lane to avoid damage to their vehicle. Within a few days, some [DOTD] personnel filled in some of the more ratted areas and pot-holes along Hwy 497 in the area I had described. I am very appreciative of their efforts.

I would like to thank Mr. Smith for his customer service. I appreciate him providing me with the direct telephone line to his work area so if I see other potential dangerous situations I can alert him so he can take needed action.

Respectfully,

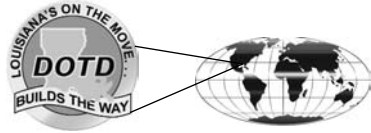
D. Wade Jenkins, Jr.

USAF, Lt Colonel (Retired)

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**COMMUTER LINES**

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## Construction project uncovers old sugar mill

While working on a project to add two lanes to U.S. 61, DOTD construction crews uncovered evidence of an old sugar mill that was a part of the Star Hill Plantation in West Feliciana Parish.

The ruins were evidence of Star Hill Plantation's efforts to go into sugar production before the Civil War. Patent drawings from 1845 demonstrate that the mill was steam powered and, at 100 meters long and 22 meters wide, would have been a significant structure when in use.

Under contract with DOTD, archaeological work on the excavation project is being carried out by R. Christopher Goodwin and Associates Inc.

According to archaeologist Sue Sanders, the sugar mill probably never would have been excavated were it not for the construction project. The site was identified during a 1994 archaeological study for the U.S. 61 corridor between



*This aerial view shows just one section of the Star Hill Sugar Mill ruins.*

Thompson Creek and Bains. In 2000, the site was determined eligible for the National Register of Historic Places.

DOTD will present the findings of the Star Hill Sugar Mill at the annual Society for the Historical Archaeology conference in Albuquerque in January 2008.